

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Converted and renamed: Emergency towing vessel „Abeille Normandie“ left German Naval Yards



Kiel, 05.05.2022. **Following the successful completion of conversion works, the French emergency tug "Abeille Normandie" was handed over to the customer.**

The high-performance tug, which arrived at the shipyard in September, has been extensively converted over the past few months into one of the most powerful emergency towing vessels with rescue capabilities. The 91-meter-long and 22-meter-wide vessel, with its increased power of 282 tons of towing capacity and 20,800 kilowatts (28,300 hp), will be available to the French Navy as a multifunctional emergency tug.

As a special feature, the ship has been given a rescue capacity to accommodate 300 shipwrecked persons, as well as a modern fire extinguishing system for high seas fires, and can thus be used in a variety of ways.

After all the necessary tests and final inspections and the functioning of all the equipment on board, the official handover to the customer, the French shipping company "Les Abeilles" from Le Havre in France, took place today. The shipping

company deliberately opted for conversion instead of new construction. By refitting the tug for new tasks, not only was the service life of the tug extended, but a contribution was also made to the careful use of resources.

The sister ship "Abeille Méditerranée" is currently undergoing final outfitting and will be delivered on schedule at the end of May. The ship will then be stationed off the French Mediterranean coast and replace the tug "Abeille Flandre".

"With the successfully completed conversion of the high-performance tug, the existing portfolio of German Naval Yards has been selectively expanded. The project has once again proven the importance of the intensive skills and specialized knowledge of our shipbuilders and engineers," said Rino Brugge, CEO of German Naval Yards.

With a festive handover ceremony at berth 6 of German Naval Yards in Kiel, one of the largest and most modern emergency tugs in the world left the port of Kiel heading to France.

About GERMAN NAVAL YARDS:

GERMAN NAVAL YARDS specializes in the design and construction of large naval vessels such as frigates, corvettes and offshore patrol vessels. Originating from the shipbuilding of Howaldtswerke-Deutsche Werft GmbH (HDW), the shipyard team looks back on more than 180 years of shipbuilding tradition. Numerous vessels of all frigate classes with which the German Navy currently operates, have been built at the Kiel shipyard. The efficient infrastructure includes the largest dry dock in the Baltic region (426 meters long) and the 900-ton gantry crane.

In the past year, GERMAN NAVAL YARDS achieved notable successes in both the military and civilian markets. The last three of four corvettes were handed over to the Israeli Navy in record time in cooperation with the ARGE partners. GERMAN NAVAL YARDS was also engaged in the construction of the iMERZ, which will be integrated on the EGV "Frankfurt am Main".

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